



Info@starklawlibrary.org

Stark County Law Library Association

June 2005

BEGINNERS

<http://www.stateline.org>

**The email address,
info@starklaw
library.org really
works! TRY IT!!**

Funded by The Pew Charitable Trusts as a public service, Stateline.org <<http://www.stateline.org>> provides news and commentary about a variety of state issues, including "Crime and Courts," "Economy and Business," "Education," "Energy, Environment," "Health Care," "Homeland Security," "Politics," "Social Policy," "Taxes and Budget," "Technology," and "Transportation".

The "issues" section consists mostly of brief summaries of current news items with links to the original source. You may browse this section by topic or state or use the search engine powered by Google. The archive of news stories is searchable from 1999.

The "commentary" section contains longer articles written by professional news reporters. At this site, you will also find governors' state of the state addresses from 2000 to present.

Other resources include: Stateline.org's Backgrounders get you up to speed quickly on complex issues under current debate. Click on the following topics and watch for further additions to the series.

Medicaid, <<http://www.stateline.org/live/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=136&languageId=1&contentId=16625>> Same-Sex Marriage <<http://www.stateline.org/live/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=136&languageId=1&contentId=20695>> and the Death Penalty <<http://www.stateline.org/live/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=136&languageId=1&contentId=25995>>

You may also:

- Sign up to receive news alerts by e-mail,
 - A. Daily News Alert: Today's state politics and policy links to publications across the country. Delivered weekdays.
 - B. Weekly Newsletter: The top news of the week by Stateline.org reporters. Delivered each Thursday. ¹
- Use your aggregator to subscribe to some of its many RSS feeds. The site now offers RSS feeds: three news feeds, all 12 of the issue oriented feeds, and updates from all 50 states. ²

More resources should be available soon.

INTERMEDIATE

Adobeless PDF

**You CAN create
PDF documents
WITHOUT
using Adobe!**

**Here are a few of
the alternatives.**

PDF without Adobe? Yes, there are other options! You may want to try one or more of the following:

- FinePrint Software offers pdfFactory and pdfFactory Pro, for \$50 and \$100 respectively. Trial versions are also available at <<http://www.fineprint.com/>>. Brett Burney, a contributing writer for Law.com calls pdfFactory Pro "the best alternative to having a full version of Adobe Acrobat." ³
- Global Technologies produces Jaws Creator, Editor, Partner (a combination of Creator and Editor) and Server. The cost is about the same, at \$90, \$45 and \$104. There was no cost listed for the Server program and there is a 14 day evaluation period available for Creator and Editor at <<http://www.jawspdf.com/download/index.html>>.
- PrimoPDF <<http://www.primopdf.com/>> has a free version sans ads and free trials of their Composer and Maestro versions which cost \$90 and \$45 respectively.
- Another free PDF creator is CutePDF Writer available from Acro Software at <<http://www.acrosoft.com/Products/CutePDF/writer.asp>>
- The more specialized SECPublisher 3.1 Standard at about \$1000 or the Professional Version at \$2500 are available from BCL Technologies. There is a 15-day trial version at <<http://www.secpublisher.com/>>.
- Or you can create PDF documents on-line with BCL's site called PDFonline.com <<http://www.pdfonline.com/>>. It converts your files for free up to a 2MB limit.
- BTW, Adobe also offers this service at <<http://createpdf.adobe.com/>>.
- PDF Converter3 from SoftScan also goes the other way, converting PDF documents to Word format! See their website at <<http://www.scansoft.com/pdfconverter/>>.
- HTMLDOC PDF-o-matic from ESP: Easy Software Products <<http://www.easysw.com/htmldoc/pdf-o-matic.php>> converts web pages into PDF documents online. See the site for pricing information ranging from \$50 to \$500.

ADVANCE

Safer IMing

As reported last month, those crafty, sly "phisher" people have moved into the realm of IM. Yahoo Messenger reported that attackers were sending their members messages containing links to fake sites which look like official Yahoo sites, then asking the user to log in by entering their Yahoo ID and password. Even scarier, the message appears to originate from someone on the victim's buddy list.⁴ Another lure which some security companies have dubbed "pharming" has been described as:

... pharming 'poisons' a DNS server by infusing false information into the DNS server, resulting in a user's request being redirected elsewhere. Your browser, however will show you are at the correct Web site, which makes pharming a bit more serious and more difficult to detect. Phishing attempts to scam people one at a time with an e-mail while pharming allows the scammers to target large groups of people at one time through domain spoofing.⁵

And then there is "spim." (i.e. spam on IM) Many spim messages contain pornography or fast-money schemes, the usual poker deal, and often include a link to a Web site. Following that link can trigger an avalanche of other privacy and security problems: Besides "pharming," you may get swamped with pop-up ads, or spyware and Trojan horse apps may install themselves on your PC.

Spim is even more intrusive than spam. Just like a regular IM message, spim can pop up in a chat window on top of whatever you're working on at any time.⁶

"If you're getting 50 e-mail spams a day, you can let them sit in your inbox. Getting 50 spims a day is 50 times you have to stop what you're doing to deal with the message."

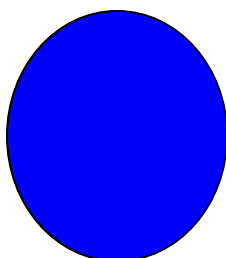
—Christopher Dean
Senior Vice President
FaceTime⁷

IM Solutions

Privacy issues are the most important factors for law firms using Instant Messaging or considering its use. The best way to ensure privacy is to keep your entire IM network behind a firewall using Jabber software <<http://www.jabber.org/>>. A dedicated corporate IM server has other advantages including pre-populated contact lists and integrated authentication

Protect yourself against spim with the use of the security which can be found through the implementation of products like FaceTime Enterprise Edition, <<http://www.facetime.com/productservices/enterpriseedition.aspx>> IMlogic IM Manager <<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,1759,1358080,00,asp>> and Akonix L7 Enforcer <<http://www.akonix.com/products/enforcer.asp>>. Solo and small firms may want to use less expensive solutions like those listed in Andrew Brandt's PCWorld article, "Cut Off Instant Messaging Spam: How to avoid 'spim' with the major IM packages." at <<http://www.pcworld.com/howto/article/0,aid,115602,00,asp>>

Keep abreast of IM news, etc. at the BigBlueBall website <<http://www.bigblueball.com/>> which provides "news, tips, tricks and support for all



ADVANCE

Safer IMing

major instant messengers including AIM, MSN, Yahoo!, ICQ, Trillian, and many more."

Another good source of up-to-date information is Instant Messaging Planet.com at <<http://www.instantmessagingplanet.com/>>.

FOOTNOTES

- ¹ Hodnicki, Joe. "A Quick Look at Stateline.org." Law Librarian Blog. 13 March 2005. Law Professor Blogs. LLC. 10 May 2005. <http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/law_librarian_blog/2005/03/a_quick_look_at_2.html>.
- ² Pacifici, Sabrina I. "Stateline.org Launches New, Improved Website." BeSpacific. 8 March 2005. BeSpacific LLC. 10 May 2005. <<http://www.bespacific.com/mt/archives/007692.html>>.
- ³ Burney, Brett. "Perfecting PDF Files." Legal Technology. 18 February 2005. ALM Properties, Inc. 11 May 2005. <<http://www.law.com/jsp/ltn/pubArticleLTN.jsp?id=1108389933468>>.
- ⁴ Kotadis, Munir. "Phishers Change Bait as IM Use Grows." Cnet News.com. 30 March 2005. CNET Networks, Inc. 16 May 2005 <http://news.com.com/Phishers+change+bait+as+IM+use+grows/2100-7349_3-5647046.html>.
- ⁵ "Pharming." Webopedia. 2004. Jupitermedia Corporation. 16 May 2005 <<http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/p/pharming.html>>.
- ⁶ Brandt, Andrew. "Cut Off Instant Messaging Spam: How to Avoid 'Spim' With the Major IM Packages." PCWorld. <<http://www.pcworld.com/howto/article/0,aid,115602,00.asp>>
- ⁷ Beal, Vangie. "Is Spim Spinning Out of Control?" Instant Messaging Planet.com. 12 April 2005. Jupitermedia Corporation. <<http://www.instantmessagingplanet.com/security/article.php/3497236>>

By Nancy Stinson, MLS
nancy@starklawlibrary.org